

## **Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the specification to correct typographical errors, as follows:

Please amend paragraph 26 on pages 10 and 11, as follows:

[026] Tooling system 100 draws in a blank 150 of material to be formed by the punch assembly 130 and die assembly 140. Blank 150 may be paper, cardboard, metal, plastic, or any other material suitable to be molded or formed. Blank 150 may be drawn into tooling system 100, dropped into tooling system 100 by gravity, such as when press 1 is positioned horizontally or at an angle, or otherwise presented to tooling system 100. Punch and die assemblies 130, 140 then mold blank 150 into a member, such as ~~[[or]]~~ a product or component, and tooling assembly 100 kicks or knocks the formed product out in preparation for receiving another blank 150, as will later be described with respect to the operation of tooling system 100. It is to be understood that delivery systems that deliver the blanks to the tooling system, and removal systems that remove the molded members after the tooling system knocks them out, are beyond the scope of the present invention.

Please amend paragraph 32 on page 13, as follows:

[032] Tapered knockout 200, shown in more detail in Figs. 4 and 6, is disposed in bushing 300. Tapered knockout 200 includes a tapered portion 210 formed or attached to the end of a shaft 204, 205 and a knockout plate 206 attached to the

opposite end of shaft 204, 205. Tapered portion ~~[[202]]~~ 210 also has a hole 202 extending into shaft 204, 205 for insertion of a knockout rod for activating tapered knockout 200 in conjunction with the drive system (not shown), the activation of which is known in the art and is beyond the scope of this invention.

Please amend paragraph 54 on pages 22 and 23, as follows:

[054] Although the shaft may be of any shape, as previously described, shaft shapes that increase the surface area of contact between the shaft and the shaft receiver tend to create a less detrimental effect on product formation quality as they wear. The greatest wear occurs during extension and retraction of tapered knockout 200 along the line of contact between the shaft surface of the knockout and the shaft receiver surface of the bushing. When operated in an angled press 1 (Fig. 1), the contact between round shaft 205 (Fig. 5) and shaft receiver 321 (Fig. 7) is linear, and the components wear more quickly. In contrast, the contact between square shaft ~~[[305]]~~ 204 (Fig. 4) and square shaft receiver 320 (Fig. 6) is along the flat surfaces of one side of shaft 204 and shaft receiver 320, which does not wear the components as quickly because the load is distributed more evenly. Although square shaft 204 is therefore preferable to shafts of some other shapes, such as round shaft 205, shafts of any shape may be used in tooling system 100 because tapered portion 202 provides tooling system 100 with self-leveling and self-centering characteristics in spite of the wear on tapered knockout 200 and bushing 300, as will be discussed.